

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CEQ-01  
EPA-04 SIG-02 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 SOE-02  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 INR-07 IO-14 L-03 NSF-02  
NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-11  
INT-05 /160 R

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP:LGRANT;SSHEM:SRS

APPROVED BY OES/ENP:LGRANT

CEQ:JBARNEY

-----075725 051607Z /46

P 051555Z JAN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV

SUBJECT: DATA FOR THE YEAR 2000 STUDY

REFERENCE: A. 1975 STATE 301427; B. A-2666, JUNE 27, 1977;  
C. 1977 STATE 167895

1. CEQ AND STATE ARE PROCEEDING WITH "YEAR 2000 STUDY" IN RESPONSE TO PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE IN HIS ENVIRONMENT MESSAGE LAST MAY. DATA AVAILABLE WASHINGTON HAVE PROVEN SUFFICIENT FORMOST PURPOSES OF STUDY.

2. QUESTION OF DEFORESTATION ANDDEGRADATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IS ONE CLEAR EXCEPTION. WE SUSPECT FROM RESPONSES TO REF A AND FROM OTHER INFO AVAILABLE THAT STRIPPING OF VEGETATIVE COVER, PRIMARILY FOR COOKING FUEL, MAY BE THE SINGLE MOST SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM IN MUCH OF THE NON-INDUSTRIAL WORLD. ASIDE FROM LOSS OF FOREST RESOURCES, PROCESS LEADS TO ERRATIC STREAM FLOW, INCREASED EROSION WITH SOIL LOSS AND REDUCTION OF ARABLE LAND. (POSSIBLE CLIMATIC EFFECTS GIVE PROBLEM A WORLD-WIDE DIMENSION, BUT THESE ARE NOT YET ESTABLISHED.)

3. PROBLEM IS THAT WE HAVE VERY LITTLE QUANTITATIVE DATA ASIDE FROM A FEW EDUCATED GUESSES AS TO EXTENT OF THIS PROCESS. THE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES THAT IT IS NOT COVERED IN MOST REGULAR STATISTICAL REPORTING, PERHAPS PARTLY BECAUSE OF LAG IN RECOGNIZING ITS EXTENT AND IMPORTANCE. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS OUR HOPE THAT IN HOST COUNTRY FORESTRY UNCLASSIFIED

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OR AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENTS THERE MAY BE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE CONCERNED WITH THIS PROBLEM AND ATTEMPTING TO QUANTIFY IT.

4. IT IS IN THE HOPE THAT SUCH "UNOFFICIAL" DATA EXIST IN SOME AREAS THAT WE ARE REQUESTING YOUR REPORT ON THE BEST AVAILABLE ESTIMATES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS: (A) FORESTRY: HOW MUCH DEFORESTATION (LAND UNITS/YEAR) IS TAKING PLACE? ARE GOOD FORESTRY PRACTICES BEING USED? ANY EFFECTIVE REFORESTATION? TO WHAT EXTENT ARE EXISTING FORESTS SHOWING SIGNS OF STRESS FROM FOREST GRAZING, FIREWOOD GLEANING, EXPANDED OR ACCELERATED SLASH AND BURN AGRICULTURE, ETC.? TO WHAT EXTENT DOES DISRUPTION OF WATERSHED COVER APPEAR TO BE CAUSING PROBLEMS DOWNSTREAM (ERRATIC STREAM FLOW, DAM SILTATION, ETC.)? WHAT INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS ARE IN EFFECT TO IMPROVE FORESTRY PRACTICES? ARE THESE ADEQUATE? (B) SOIL: IF AGRICULTURAL LAND IS BEING LOST TO CULTIVATION THROUGH PROBLEMS SUCH AS EROSION, SALINIZATION, WATERLOGGING, DESERTIFICATION, LATERIZATION, ETC., PLEASE SPECIFY CAUSE AND MAGNITUDE (UNITS/TIME). SPECIFY PROBLEMS EITHER CURRENTLY VISIBLE OR FORESEEABLE CONCERNING MAINTENANCE OF FERTILITY IN CURRENTLY USED CROPLAND.

WHAT INSTITUTIONS EXIST TO PROMOTE SOIL CONSERVATION? ARE THESE ADEQUATE? (C) LAND DEVELOPMENT: HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO BRING AN ADDITIONAL HECTARE OF LAND INTO CULTIVATION? HOW ARE COSTS DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN PUBLIC COSTS, E.G. IRRIGATION PROJECTS, AND PRIVATE COSTS? WHAT ADDITION TO CROP PRODUCTION CAN BE ANTICIPATED AS RESULT OF EXPANSION OF ARABLE LAND? (D) WHAT ESTIMATES ARE AVAILABLE AS TO YIELD GAINS ATTAINABLE FROM TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE? HAS ANY EFFORT BEEN MADE TO QUANTIFY INPUTS AND CAPITAL COSTS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE SUCH GAINS? (E) IF CONVENIENT, GIVE ESTIMATES FOR 5 YEAR PERIOD (I.E. 1981, ASSUMING 1976 FIGURES AVAILABLE) AND YEAR 2000.

5. DO NOT REPEAT DESCRIPTIVE DATA CONTAINED IN RESPONSES  
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TO REFTELS. RESPONSES NEEDED BY JANUARY 25 TO BE OF USE  
IN STUDY. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DATA  
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**TAGS:** SENV  
**To:** BRASILIA MEXICO MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014